

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel
3 ~~extending that protrudes~~ from the housing, said channel having a first surface that is
4 substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact surface, said channel
5 having a second surface substantially orthogonal to the first surface; and
6 a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing
7 surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the
8 source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and ~~said~~ the first and second
9 surfaces of the channel form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be
10 scanned.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a portion of
2 the vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit
3 scanning of a source document in ~~an~~ a vertical position.
- 1 3. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a front panel
2 of the housing includes an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1 4. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap
2 includes an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1 5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap includes a slot.

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1 6. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the source-
2 backing surface of the flap includes a clip arranged to receive a portion of a source
3 document to be scanned.

1 7. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the housing further
2 comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the channel when an operator
3 closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially vertical surface of the
4 housing.

1 8. (Original) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the platen has an upper
2 edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front panel of
3 the housing and a distal edge and wherein the channel is adjacent to the lower edge of
4 the platen.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the channel
2 has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that extends at
3 least to ~~the distal~~ an edge of the platen.

1 10. (Original) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is coupled to the
2 housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially separated detent
3 positions.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot is
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on
3 the channel wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a portion of a
4 platen.

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1 13. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the housing
2 is configured to extend the channel from the vertical source-contact surface when an
3 operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the vertical source-contact
4 surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the width of
2 a first end of the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over that
3 portion of the channel that extends beyond the platen.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the channel is
2 coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1 16. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 means for housing an optical scanner; and
3 means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of
4 a source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the means for optically
5 scanning without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a second
6 edge of said source along a channel means as when the source is aligned with the
7 means for optically scanning while received in the aperture and spatially arranged
8 with the means for optically scanning, wherein said channel means ~~extends~~ protrudes
9 from said means for housing and comprises a source retaining means substantially
10 parallel to, and opposed from, said optical scanner and a source support means
11 substantially orthogonal to said source retaining means.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the source
2 retaining means of said channel means extends vertically from a base of said channel
3 means and said source support means is substantially parallel to said base of said
4 channel means.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means
2 for forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

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1 19. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means
2 for forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a housing
3 and a second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1 20. (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,
2 comprising:
3 providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a
4 substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel ~~extending~~ protruding from
5 the housing, the channel having a first surface that is substantially parallel to, and
6 opposed from, said source-contact surface, the vertical source-contact surface
7 including a transparent platen portion, wherein the channel is adjacent to a lower edge
8 of the transparent platen portion and further comprises a second surface substantially
9 orthogonal to the first surface; and

10 providing a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a
11 source-backing surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the
12 housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first
13 and second surfaces of the channel form an aperture for receiving a source to be
14 scanned.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the
3 source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel such that the
4 source is supported along a second edge by the channel.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is applied to a non-scan
3 surface of the source and the scan surface of the source closely contacts the
4 transparent platen portion.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

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1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is removed from the
3 non-scan surface of the source.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising
2 removing the source from the aperture.

1 26. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;
3 a channel ~~extending~~ protruding from the housing, said channel having a first
4 surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact surface
5 and a second surface that is substantially orthogonal to the first surface; and
6 a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface
7 substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-
8 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first and second surfaces of the
9 channel form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned without
10 necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined
3 surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface arranged to
3 increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is
4 substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes a slot.

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1 30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on
3 said channel and wherein information to be scanned from the source document is
4 aligned with at least a portion of a platen.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said channel when the
3 source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said
2 channel has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that
3 extends at least to a distal edge of a platen.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap is
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-
3 separated detent positions.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 is configured to extend said channel from the source-contact surface when an operator
3 adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to increase
4 the width of the aperture.

1 35. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width
2 of said channel at a first end of said channel proximal to a front panel of the housing
3 increases over that portion of said channel that extends beyond a platen.

1 36. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said
2 channel is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

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1 37. (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner
2 comprising:

3 inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a channel that
4 protrudes from a housing, the channel having a first surface that is substantially
5 parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner such that a surface of the source
6 having information thereon that is desired to be imaged by the scanner is adjacent to a
7 sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane and such that said leading edge is
8 supported by a base surface of said channel, said base surface extending adjacent to an
9 edge of said platen; and

10 adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned
11 with the sensor.

1 38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising:
2 inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with
3 the platen of the scanner; and
4 enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
2 removing the plug; and
3 removing the source from the aperture.

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